

Application No.: 10/677,288
Art Unit: 3676

Attorney Docket No. 21593.00
Confirmation No. 9642

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 7 with the following:

--Referring to Fig. 1, there is shown the inventive wheel locking device **5** installed on a trailer, thereby preventing wheel rotation and, therefore, preventing theft of the trailer **20**. The trailer wheels **50** are modular in construction, having a series of openings **40** defined therein. The rod **10** of the locking device **5** spans the width of the trailer through the wheel openings shown.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 9 with the following:

--A lock seat recess **60** is cut in thrust washer **52** through outer face **54** for receiving the housing of lock **12**(see Fig. 7). Figs. 5-7 show the thrust washer **52** in more detail. Thrust washer **52** is circular in shape and has an outer face **54** and a radial mounting slot **56** having side walls **62** and a semi-circular center wall **64** sized to fit within thrust washer receiving groove **58** in rod **10**. A lock seat recess **60** extends radially from an intermediate point along mounting slot **56** to the opposite periphery of thrust washer **52**. Lock seat recess **60** has sidewalls **68** and end walls **70** and the surface thereof extends along the length of mounting slot **56** forming grooves **65** between mounting slot groove walls **66**.--

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 9 with the following:

--In operation, trail wheel lock assembly 5 is installed by sliding washer 16 onto rod 10 to rest against permanent stop ~~38~~ 18. The rod 10 is inserted through corresponding openings in wheels installed on opposite ends of a common axle. Another washer 14 is installed over the head end of the rod 10 and slid along rod 10 to rest against the outer side of the wheel. The lock 12 is locked over the head end 32 of the rod 12. In the case of modular wheels there is customarily a circle of relatively small openings spaced inward from the rim of the wheel and no washers are necessary for installation as long as the stop 10 and the lock 12 are larger than the openings. Alternatively, washers 16 and 14 may be relatively small in diameter. In the case of spoked wheels, the rod is inserted between the spokes and larger diameter washers 16 and 14 may be necessary to assure that the assembly cannot be pulled through the wheels between the spokes.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 3 with the following:

--In the second embodiment, the rod 10 has a circumferential thrust washer receiving groove 58 spaced from the head end 32 of rod 10. After installation of the rod 10 and washers 16 and 14, thrust washer 52 is installed on rod 10 over groove 58 by sliding along radial mounting slot 56 until centered against semi-circular center wall 64 which fits into receiving groove 58. The housing of lock 12 is then installed on the head of rod 10 by means of lock aperture 36 and the inner end of the housing seated into corresponding lock seat 60 of thrust washer 58 52 and then secured by turning a key, thereby locking lock 12 onto rod head end 32.--

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 14 with the following:

--The lock **12** is a conventional rod receiver sliding lock, and may have a pin tumbler, wafer disc, or any other conventional internal mechanism within the housing. Advantageously, the lock **12** is not of the padlock variety, and, therefore does not have ~~and~~ any exposed shackle, and presents more of a deterrent to thieves and vandals. A lock useful with the present invention is the Gorilla Guard™ Receiver Lock, commercially available from Fulton Performance Products, Mosinee, Wisconsin.--